

CITY OF HAYWARD AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE

7/25/06

AGENDA ITEM

WORK SESSION ITEM

WSEZ

TO:

Mayor and City Council

FROM:

City Manager

SUBJECT:

Posting Council Member Biographical Information on the City's Website

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council review and comment on this report.

DISCUSSION:

Earlier this year, Councilmember Bill Ward raised the issue of posting biographical information for the Mayor and City Council on the City's website. At the time, it was observed that the present practice contains very little information about the Council, and that providing more information would be beneficial to the public. It was also stated that a number of public agencies post biographical information about their members on their website. This matter was referred to the Council Technology Application Committee (CTAC) for review.

The CTAC considered the issue at its June 21, 2006 meeting, and discussed various aspects of posting such information on the City's website. Following a review of samples from other jurisdictions, the CTAC agreed the posting of such information would be appropriate. Additionally, it agreed on a set of general guidelines, as follows:

- That the City Council web page continue the posting of photographs, and that each photo be linked to a biographical page for each Councilmember.
- That each biographical page follow a standard format, within which information would be provided under four categories: 1) occupation, 2) education, 3) Council assignments, and 4) community and civic activities.
- That each Councilmember prepare the content to go under the categories noted, and the type of presentation to use, such as narrative statements or "bullet points".
- That political statements would not be allowed.
- That a limit of 200 words be established.
- That web pages to be reviewed by the City Attorney before posting.

The CTAC recommends that the Council concur with the posting of biographical information. If approved, Councilmembers will be provided the month of August in which to prepare their material, for posting in September.

Prepared by:

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Recommended by:

Perry H. Carter

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Approved by:

Jesús Armas, City Manager